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REMARKS

In response to the Advisory Action dated July 26, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. To further the prosecution of the present application, the language of the independent claims has been amended for clarification purposes, as was suggested in the comments of the Advisory Action. The claims as pending are believed to be in condition for allowance.

In the previous Response dated July 11, 2005, Applicants noted that each of the independent claims 1, 14, and 24 explicitly recites that a first state of the second storage area is a state wherein updates to the first storage area are made to the second storage area, and that the second state is a state wherein updates to the first storage area are not made to the second storage area.

The Advisory Action asserts that the claim language is not consistent with the above assertion, and notes that if the claims were written as "placing a second storage area in a first state, wherein said first state of the second storage area is a state wherein updates to the first storage are made to the second storage area," then "the claim language and the applicants assertion would be same." The Advisory Action notes that since this was note the case, the rejection of claims 1-36 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as purportedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,691,245 ("DeKoning") is maintained.

On August 9, 2005, Applicants' representatives conducted a brief telephone discussion with the Examiner (the substance of which is summarized herein) to confirm that submission of the amendments herein would overcome the prior art of record. The Examiner indicated that they would.

While Applicants disagree that Applicants' arguments were inconsistent with the claims as previously pending and believe that the amendments do not alter the scope of the claims, to further the prosecution of the present application, the language of the independent claims 1, 14 and 24 has been amended according to the suggestion of the Advisory Action, and an RCE has been filed to ensure entry of the amendment.

Claims 1, 14 and 24, as amended, recite placing a second storage area in a first state, wherein the first state of the second storage area is a state in which updates to the first storage area

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are made to the second storage area. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, 14 and 24 under §102 as purportedly being anticipated by DeKoning should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted

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Date: August 11, 2005

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